

# "Little Gems"

Niger Gerard Jarret, in the possession of said  
Virginia, was convicted by the Court of Bristol  
of London of an offence against the law  
for which he was sentenced transportation  
after having had his value ascertained by said  
Court at \$500. And it is happened, however,

said slaves will then consent to go to Liberia in Africa to  
reside my executors shall defray their expenses to Norfolk  
for the purpose of procuring for the people of Colour. I desire some

with the Agents & Officers of the American Society  
for colonizing free people of Colour. I desire some

and it is my particular request they do not dispose  
of any of them to southern Slave dealers, and if unpro-

Clerk of the Circuit Court - Gary M. Clemens

Historic Records

Volume 4 Issue 1 January 2019

"Little Gems" is a quarterly newsletter published by the Clerk of the Circuit Historic Records Division. "Little Gems" refers to a binder of interesting references compiled by retired Deputy Clerk, Louisa Hutchison. Since the formation of the county, the Clerks have squirreled away notes which listed things to remember, interesting facts, and things that were just down right oddities. Over time these notes went from scraps of paper tucked in desks or books, to an organized binder, now called the "Book of Little Gems." The Historic Records newsletter is meant to provide you information about upcoming programs and exhibits, updated indexes, processed records, tips for research, as well as some articles on a few of the "Little Gems" we have found.

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## Land Records & Deed Research

Loudoun is one of only a few counties in the Commonwealth that has records dating from its formation in 1757 when it split from Fairfax County. The Historic Records and Deed Research division includes court records from 1757-1980's and land records from 1757-present. Research can be conducted by using both in-house and online databases as well as paper indexes. Our staff can provide guidance and suggestions to start your research but **cannot provide research services or legal advice**. To prepare for your visit please review our online links to indexes and county databases which provide a starting point in your records research.

## If you Visit the Archives

There is a court order that establishes court security protocols that serve the best interests of all visitors to the various courts and court-related offices in the Courts Complex. Therefore, electronic mobile devices such as cellphones with cameras, laptop computers, and electronic tablets are currently not permitted in the Courts Complex. To assist the patrons of the Historic Records/Archives research division, the Clerk's Office provides computer workstations with internet access so our patrons can review the websites of other historic records museums and historic records research organizations to assist with research needs in the Clerk's Office.

## ON THE COVER

### 1) **Exr. of Charles Binns v. Verlinda Perry widow, CH1846-025**

Jarret was a former slave owned by Verlinda Perry. In 1839, he was convicted and found guilty for distributing anti-slavery materials. He was sentenced to 20 lashes and sold for \$800 outside the boundaries of the United States. The complaint requested \$800 in this chancery case from the defendant.

### 2-3) **Exr. of Archibald Mains ETC. v. Mason Chamberlin & wife ETC, CH1837-032**

Per last will and testament of Archibald Mains, his slaves were to be emancipated on the advice of the "Agents & Officers of the American Society for Colonizing Free People of Colour"

### 4) **Gustavus A. Moran v. Admr. of William Moran ETC, CH1835-55**

This chancery case disputed the distribution of Gustavus Moran's estate, especially his slaves. Gustavus stipulated in his will that his slaves were not to be sold to southern slave dealers.

# “Little Gems”

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## THE MANAGER'S ORDER BOOK: Welcome to the October Issue of "Little Gems"

By: Eric Larson



Happy New Year "Little Gem" readers. Another year is behind us, and a new year has begun. The Historic Records staff would like to express our gratitude to our newsletter readers, visitors to our events, program partners, and all Loudoun citizens who made 2018 another successful year.

In 2018, Historic Records staff finished two large indexing projects. The first of these projects was the indexing of all slaves and slave related cases from Loudoun's 1757-1866 chancery cases (Please see Melissa Murphy's article on this project pg.5). This index will be placed on our website in the near future. The second, is the completion of an index of all Highway Plats from the 1940s-present. Historic Records Clerks Alyssa Fisher and Sarah Markel spent over a year indexing twenty four boxes of plats!

Scanning reached a new level of success in 2018, which included the complete scanning of all Wills and Fiduciary Order Books. Further conservation and scanning of Land Tax Books was also completed, but this project will continue well beyond 2019. Also, all the 1912-1917 Birth and Death Records were scanned.

Historic Records programs in 2018 were attended by 584 people. The World War I Committee November 11, 2018 Armistice's program was a huge success. This event was attended by veterans, veterans' organizations, Loudoun County High School ROTC students, and citizens of all ages. The courthouse was filled to capacity with 177 visitors!

In 2018, Historic Records received conservation grants from the Library of Virginia and the Ketchikan Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. These grants will conserve a number of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century Deed and Court Order Books. Historic Records also received funding to replace book binders on our Plat Index Book and for fifteen early 20<sup>th</sup> century Fiduciary Order Books.

Some other projects Historic Records completed in 2018, included reformatting the Historic Records website, digitizing and proofing the Index of Plats from 1757-1980s, and inscribing the recording date of all wills in our 1757-1985 Will Index Books.

All of the above accomplishments led to Historic Records receiving the 2018 National Association of American Counties Achievement Award for its programs and preservation efforts.

In 2019, Historic Records will be pursuing programs that retain, educate, and provide greater access and preservation to both our older and recent court records. Some of these programs will include:

- Security enhancements to our public spaces and record storage
- Increase the size of Historic Records storage
- Continue to scan and conserve Land Tax Books
- First Friday Programs
- Research a database for historic records
- Develop education programs for schools and adults
- Increase conservation funding for court records
- Scan all Marriage Records from 1757-1995
- Increase the number of indexes on our website

Thank you for your continued support in our preservation efforts, and my staff and I look forward to seeing all of you in 2019! Have a safe and historic 2019!



## "Little Gems": Remembering the Old Hotel

By: Sarah Markel

As a reader of our newsletter, you already know that the Historic Records Division sits on the old site of the Leesburg Inn. But, did you know that Mr. Frederick Howard, Clerk of the Circuit Court (1979-1991), wrote a poem about the Old Hotel?

The County purchased the Inn property on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of October, 1953 from Sylvester W. & Esther J. Keese, for \$65,000.00.<sup>1</sup> The County then used the building for offices until 1974 when they decided that they needed to tear it down and build a new facility.<sup>2</sup>

In 1974 Mr. Howard was a Deputy Clerk working for Mr. Joseph Martz. After years of working in and seeing the old Leesburg Inn, Mr. Howard was moved to write the following poem about its destruction from the point of view of the Old Hotel<sup>3</sup>:

### FAREWELL, FROM THE OLD HOTEL

I stand here waiting for the axe to fall,  
I feel the impending doom of the demolition ball.

I can't help but wonder how this can happen to me  
For while in my prime I was quite a site to see.

I remember how my hallways with laughter rang,  
And down in my main hall people ate, drank and sang.

But alas and alack I was neither painted nor patched  
And too many families of pigeons I've hatched.

I still look back on those wonderful years of bounty  
Back before the time I was purchased by the county.

To the friends I have made in numbers untold  
I bid thee farewell, I'm sorry I got old.

The Old Hotel<sup>3</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Loudoun County Clerk of the Circuit Court-Gary M. Clemens Clerk- Deed Book 14E Page 497-500.

<sup>2</sup> The Thomas Balch Library. [ca 2017]. In Facebook [Group Page]. Retrieved December 20, 2018, from [https://www.facebook.com/pg/ThomasBalchLibrary/posts/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/ThomasBalchLibrary/posts/?ref=page_internal)

<sup>3</sup> A Memorial Poem: Farewell, From the Old Hotel. Frederick Howard. Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

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## **\*Update\* - “We Were Residents of Loudoun County”**

By Melissa Murphy

In the June 2018 newsletter I wrote about a project I was tasked with to compile a spreadsheet that listed the names and cases of slaves in Loudoun County’s early chancery records. It took the whole of 2018 to complete the index comprised of 3,990 lines in an excel spreadsheet. Those 3,990 entries represent 3,990 names of people (slaves) who were included in chancery cases from the years 1757 through 1866.

In this project I reviewed 3,028 chancery cases, 550 of which involved a dispute over enslaved individuals. I documented names and case details in relation to each slave. Chancery cases for this time period encompassed disputes over things such as land, crops and houses, estates of deceased individuals, tobacco and just about anything of monetary value. It was interesting to notice trends in the number of cases in certain years.

From 1831-1835 there were 101 slave related cases out of a total 487 cases filed. In those 101 slave related cases, 735 slaves were named. These numbers led me to wonder what the economic climate was for people in those times and what pushed them to fight so readily over property and estates, specifically in the year 1832. In 1832 alone, there were 249 chancery cases filed. Upon further research I found this was a turbulent year for a couple of reasons. First, there was a presidential election, and second there was a veto of the charter for the Bank of the US. This veto destabilized the local and national banking system thus creating a need for people to recall debts and dispute their share of estates.

A look at cases from 1851-1860, leading up to the Civil War, included a total of 535 chancery cases. The number of cases involving slaves was 139 which was lower than other time periods in this project. I was surprised to see that these 139 cases actually provided more names of slaves than I had seen in other time periods. The slaves during this time frame numbered 1,175.

As this project was coming to an end, the final file I read stuck out and brought this whole experience to a close for me. It involved a dispute over the estate of Mahlon Gilmore where his heirs contested his will. In his will, Mahlon Gilmore freed his slaves named Jane and Gilmore and left the whole of his estate to them. This file shows that his heirs contested the will and wanted it to be made invalid due to its contents. This case was dismissed in 1866 unfortunately with no disposition noted.

It has been both an honor and privilege to work on this project and to help tell a small part of the story for the thousands of people who lived here. As this project came to a close, I have now started reviewing post 1865 chancery cases that list slaves. As names of former slaves appear in a number of cases up to the 20<sup>th</sup> century, I look forward to continuing my efforts to shed light on otherwise unknown names.

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1. <http://www.lva.virginia.gov/chancery/faq.htm> According to Black’s Law Dictionary, a chancery cause is a case of equity where “Justice is administered according to fairness as contrasted with the strictly formulated rules of common law.”



In the name of God Amen I Archibald Mains of the County of Loudoun State of Virginia about to visit one or more of the Western States mindful of the uncertainty of life at all times & desirous to provide in any event for the suitable & peaceable disposition of the property I possess do make & ordain this my last will & testament viz:

First. I direct that all my just debts be paid

Secondly. At the end of one year from my decease I emancipate & set free all my slaves & their future increase & inasmuch as the Laws of this Commonwealth do not admit of their residence within its limits I direct that in case the said slaves will then consent to go to Liberia in Africa to reside my executors shall defray their expenses to Norfolk or other Port of embarkation & shall pay towards their establishment & comfortable settlement in the land of their adoption the sum of one thousand dollars to be applied according to his discretion by & upon the advice & consultation with the Agents & Officers of the American Society for colonizing free people of Colour. In case some of them consent & others refuse to go to Liberia I direct that a due proportion of said sum be applied accordingly for the benefit of those so emigrating thither. In case my slaves refuse at the period prescribed to go to Liberia I direct that they or such of them as do so refuse be retained in servitude by my executor & under his control & direction for the period of one year more for the purpose by their labour & hires to raise a sum to defray their expenses & that they then be permitted to go to Pennsylvania, Missouri or elsewhere where the laws of the State or Territory will admit of their residing & where they may choose to go & that the sum of five hundred dollars out of my estate in event of their electing to go to such State or Territory be laid out by my executor at his discretion in Land to be held by him & his heirs in trust for the benefit, comfort & convenience of my said

### Archibald Mains' will from Chancery Suit 1837-032

This document references the "American Society for Colonizing Free People of Colour."

Archibald Mains provided stipulations in his will for his executor to aid his emancipated slaves to be colonized in Liberia.

If they refused to go to Liberia they were required to work for a period of a year to help offset their cost to then be settled in Pennsylvania.

### The Society for the Colonization of Free People of Color of America, American Colonization Society (ACS), 1816-1964

The ACS was founded in 1816 to relocate Free Blacks from the United States to West Africa. One of the founding members was Loudoun's Charles Fenton Mercer. By 1822 a colony in Liberia was established. A number of Free Blacks were settled in Liberia, and some of Loudoun's chancery cases mention Liberia as a settlement for slaves freed in Loudoun. By 1867 the ACS had settled 13,000 former American slaves and Free Blacks. The ACS did not officially dissolve until 1964.



## Historic Records and Deed Research Division Receives 2018 National Association of Counties Award for Arts, Culture and Historic Preservation



Back Row L-R-Suzanne Volpe, Algonkian District, Geary Higgins, Catoclin District, Tony Buffington, Blue Ridge District, Koran Saines, Sterling District, Kristen Umstattd, Leesburg District, Matthew Latourneau, Dulles District, Ron Meyer, Broad Run District

Front Row L-R-Ralph Buona, Ashburn District, Gary Clemens, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Phyllis Randall, Chair-at-Large, Eric Larson, Historic Records Manager, Laura Boudreaux, Chief Deputy Clerk, Kevin Blatchley, Chief Deputy Clerk

On December 4, 2018, the Clerk of the Circuit Historic Records Division received their official 2018 National Association of Counties Achievement Award (NACo) at the Loudoun County Board of Supervisor's meeting.

NACo was founded in 1935 and is made up of 3,069 counties. This Achievement Awards Program seeks to recognize innovative county government programs. This prestigious award was presented to Historic Records Division for its public programs that promote and enhance awareness of the court's historic records. Loudoun County was one of only six counties in the United States to win in the category of Arts, Culture and Historic Preservation.

## Honoring Loudoun's Great War Soldiers

Sunday November 11, 2018, was a crisp and clear fall morning in Leesburg, an almost perfect weather day to observe the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of World War I. One hundred and seventy seven people gathered inside the 1894 courthouse to view displays and listen to speakers on Loudoun's role in World War I. At 11AM, the courthouse bell rang, then a moment of silence. On the courthouse steps a trumpet played taps. Afterwards, visitors gathered by the Loudoun's World War I monument to hear the names and short biography of each Loudoun soldier who lost their life in the Great War. The ceremony ended with people placing a poppy in the memorial wreath.

This event was made possible by Loudoun's WWI & WWII committee







## Police Blotter

By Sarah Markel



For this edition of the Police Blotter I was inspired by this month's "Little Gem." The Leesburg Inn was a feature on the downtown landscape for years, and provided a place to socialize, and maybe even drink. This made me wonder if this gathering place ever had any patrons get in trouble with the law? Think about your last stay at a hotel, did you take the soap, shampoo, pen, or writing pad? Well after looking through the criminal files I found one such person who appears to have taken anything not nailed down.

**Case Number:** 1949-036      **Name:** Watkins, Douglas      **Charge:** Larceny

**Complaint:** Taken from arrest warrant: "unlawfully take, steal and carry away the property of another, to-wit: sheets, towels, pillow cases and curtains, the property of S.W. Keesee and Esther J. Keesee, trading as The Leesburg Inn, of the value of \$25.00, with the unlawful intent to permanently deprive the owner thereof, against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth..."

**Details:** The above language was taken from the arrest warrant issued the 16<sup>th</sup> day of August 1949. On the same day Mr. Watkins posted a \$125.00 cash bond for his appearance before Lucas D. Phillips Trial Justice.

**Outcome:** Mr. Watkins entered a plea of "not guilty" to the Trial Justice. The Justice after hearing the facts found Mr. Watkins guilty as charged with petit larceny and his penalty was fixed at a fine of \$100.00 and \$7.25 costs, and ninety days in jail. Mr. Watkins appealed the decision and an appeal was granted.

Judge Alexander heard the appeal and ruled: "On consideration whereof the Court doth adjudge and order that the defendant be confined in the jail of this County for a period of sixty days and that he pay a fine of \$50.00 and costs."

Form 810-1-4-49.

### AFFIDAVIT FOR SEARCH WARRANT

State of Virginia,  
County of Loudoun, to wit:  
City of \_\_\_\_\_

This day S. W. Keesee, personally appeared before me, Doris L. Faulkner, Trial Justice Clerk of said County, and made oath that he verily believes that a certain house and premises located in said County at or near Leesburg, Va., and described further as frame house occupied by Douglas Watkins & others and occupied by or in possession of Douglas Watkins unlawfully contains, contrary to law, sheets, pillowcases and towels, and bedspreads, the property of the Leesburg Inn, because he has been informed that such items belonging to the said Leesburg Inn have been delivered to the laundry by the said Douglas Watkins, the said Douglas Watkins having no authority to handle said property, and that the said articles are shown missing on the hotel's inventory, and further made oath that such information was received through a reliable person, or that he has reasonable cause for such belief.

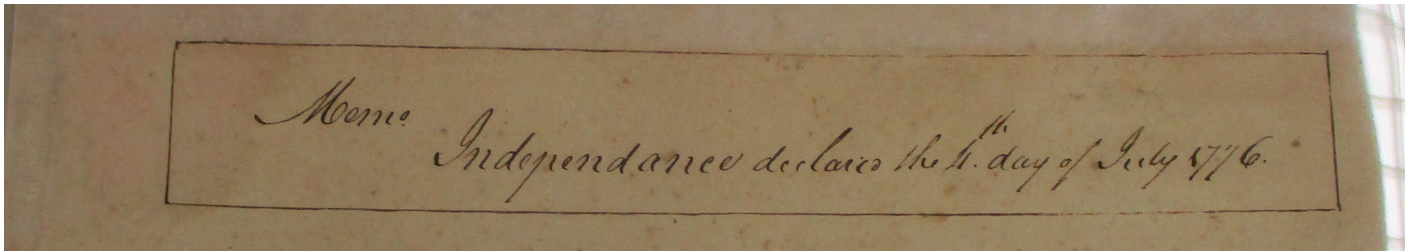
Given under my hand this 16th day of August, 1949.

Doris L. Faulkner (Seal)  
Trial Justice Clerk

Recovered 8/16/49  
5 pairs (10 pcs) Curtains  
10 Tie Backs  
3 Bed Towels  
7 Sheets  
5 pillow Cases

Unrecovered  
at least 6  
more sheets  
approx \$23.50  
value to \$25.00  
Douglas Watkins



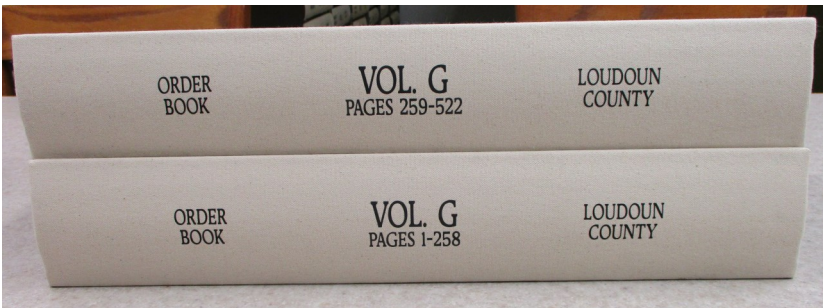


### Court Order Book G is back in Historic Records

With a generous grant from the Ketocin Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), this order book was conserved by Kofile. This is the "Little Gem" of the Loudoun's Court Order Books. This two volume order book starts in August of 1776 a month after the colonies declared independence and continues to 1783. Charles Binns, wrote on the front page of the order book "Independence declared 4 day of July, 1776."

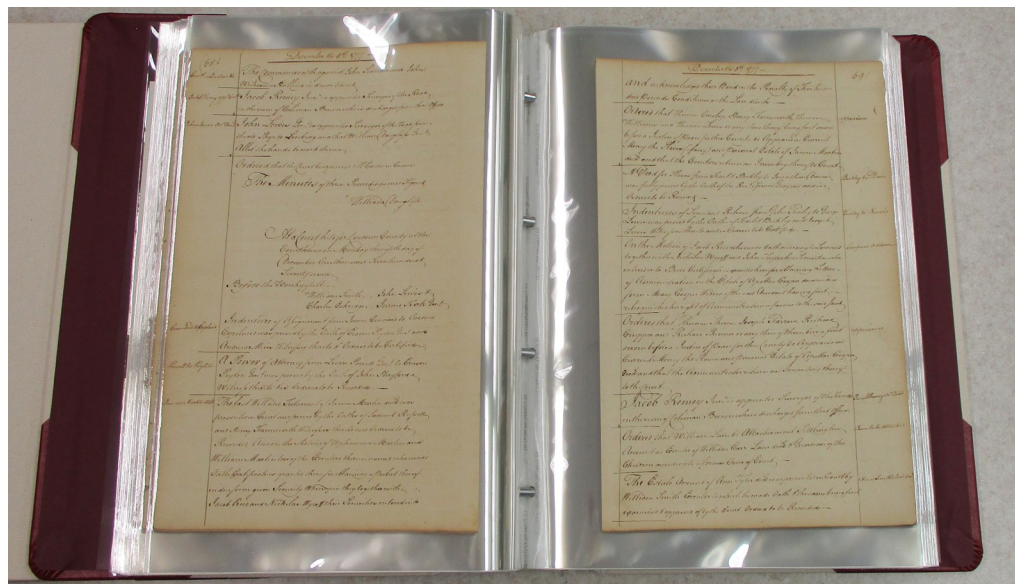
The Ketocin Chapter of the DAR is providing further funding for the conservation of Court Order Book A. This was Loudoun's first Court Order Book, which begins at the first session of court on July 12, 1757. The two volume order book will cost \$8,500 to conserve. The conservation will be performed by Kofile.

Since 2017, the Ketocin Chapter of the DAR has donated over \$17,000 to the Clerk's Office for the preservation of Revolutionary War period documents found in Historic Records.



We thank the DAR for their continued support and helping us preserve the counties records for generations to come.

Court Order Book G after conservation.

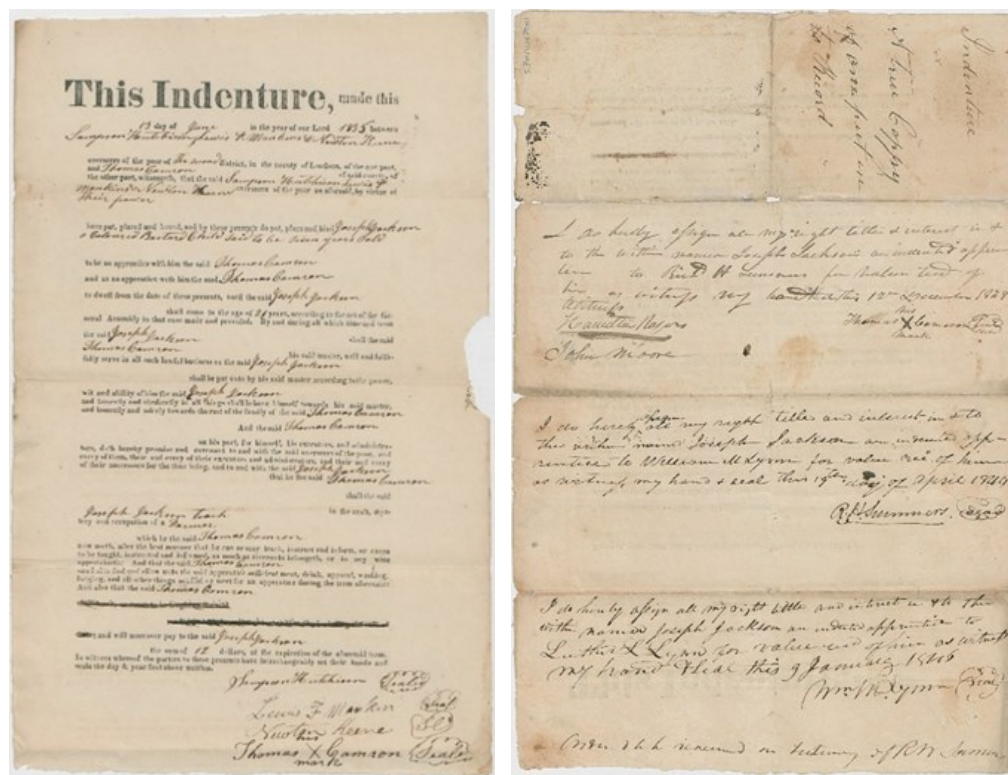


## Tracing Joseph Jackson

By Alyssa Fisher

Virginia statute in the nineteenth century enabled overseers of the poor to bind out orphaned or bastard children as apprentices to learn a trade or skill. The length of each apprenticeship varied by gender; male children worked until age 21, female children worked until age 18. In addition to a trade, masters and mistresses agreed to teach their apprentices reading, writing, and for male children “common arithmetic, including the rule of three.” While most records show a child bound to one or two people over the course of their apprenticeship, Joseph Jackson, a free child of color, apprenticed with four different people. Jackson’s records provide a glimpse into his apprenticeship experience, but also showcase an imbalance in legislation, opportunity, and the reality of survival in Loudoun society during the first half of the nineteenth century.<sup>1</sup>

In 1835, Sampson Hutchison, Lewis F. Mankin, and Newton Keene, as overseers of the poor of the second district in Loudoun, bound “Joseph Jackson a coloured [sic] bastard child said to be seven years old,” to Thomas Camron to learn “the craft, mystery and occupation of a farmer,” until he turned the age of 21. Thomas Camron promised to provide “sufficient meat, drink, apparel, washing, lodging, and all other things needful,” and to pay Jackson \$12 at the expiration of the apprenticeship. Jackson’s record, a pre-printed form, listed all of the regulated phrases common among apprenticeship documents, but included a crossed out line regarding the teaching of reading, writing, and arithmetic. An Act from 1804 stated, “it shall not be lawful for the overseers of the poor who may hereafter bind out any black or mulatto orphan, to require the master or mistress to teach such orphan reading, writing or arithmetic.” Thomas Camron most likely could not teach Jackson how to read and write as he left a mark for his signature instead of signing his name. Even if Camron had the skills to teach Jackson, the law barred Jackson from that opportunity.<sup>2</sup>



Joseph Jackson's record that bound him to Thomas Camron in 1835. The back of this record includes a list of every transfer of Jackson's apprenticeship to other individuals.

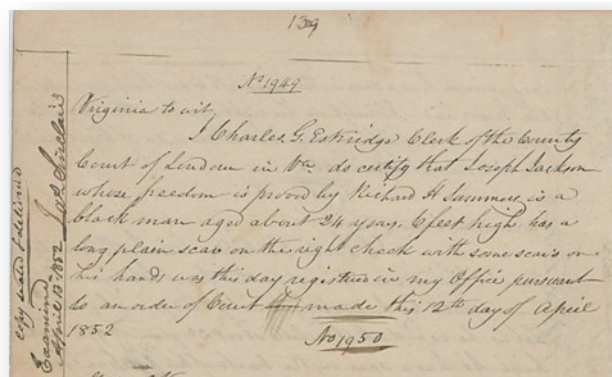
1. General Assembly of Virginia, *A Collection of All Such Acts of the General Assembly of Virginia, Of a Public & Permanent Nature, As Are Now in Force Comprising the First Volume of the Revised Code* (Richmond: Samuel Pleasants, 1814), 242; “Joseph Jackson,” 1835, *Indentures & Bound Out Children*, Loudoun County Clerk's Office.

2. “Joseph Jackson,” 1835, *Indentures & Bound Out Children*, Loudoun County Clerk's Office; General Assembly of Virginia, *A Collection of All Such Acts of the General Assembly of Virginia of a Public and Permanent Nature as Have Passed Since The Session of 1801* (Richmond: Samuel Pleasants, Jr., 1808), 85.



Thomas Camron sold his land in the southeastern portion of the county, around the present location of Dulles Airport, on December 12, 1838, to Richard H. Summers. On that same day Camron also transferred Jackson's apprenticeship to Summers, allowing Jackson to remain on the same land. Summers transferred the apprenticeship to William M. Lynn on April 19, 1844, and William Lynn transferred the apprenticeship to Luther L. Lynn on January 9, 1846. Working until age 21, Jackson's apprenticeship most likely expired around 1849. At the expiration of Jackson's apprenticeship he, by law, should have acquired \$12 from Luther L. Lynn. There is no record of Jackson petitioning for his dues, so the assumption is Lynn paid Jackson the appropriate amount.<sup>3</sup>

Jackson no doubt looked for work after he completed his apprenticeship, though he had to adhere to specific laws regarding his movement and employment as a free person of color. As an apprentice his indenture document may have served as proof of his free status. Virginia statute required free people of color to register in a book with the Clerk specifying descriptive information about the individual to help identify them. Jackson did not appear in the *Register of Free Negroes* for Loudoun until 1852, three years after his apprenticeship expired. Statute also stipulated that free people of color "shall, once in every three years, obtain a new certificate." A line at the bottom of Jackson's indenture record states "Ordered to be renewed on testimony of R.H. Summers." If Jackson's indenture record served as his freedom certificate, it makes sense why his first entry in the register would be three years after his apprenticeship expired.<sup>4</sup>



Joseph Jackson's listing in the *Record of Free Negroes* 1844-1861

R.H. Summers must have remained an acquaintance to Joseph Jackson, even though Jackson's apprenticeship under Summers ended in 1844. Summers proved Jackson's freedom both after his apprenticeship ended around 1849, and when Jackson registered in the *Record of Free Negroes* on April 12, 1852. Jackson's listing, No. 1949, described him as "a black man aged about 24 years, 6 feet high, has a long plain scar on the right cheek with some scars on his hands." By statute, "no free negro or mulatto shall be allowed to go at large, or hire himself or herself to labour [sic] in any county, without having his or her certificate registered in the clerk's office of the county wherein he or she resides, and having a certified copy of the said certificate." If a free person worked without a certificate, a magistrate could send that person to jail until a certificate could be produced. The hire of free people of color relied heavily on the existence of a freedom certificate and registration with the court. Neighbors and other citizens could report an employer who may have hired a free person without a certificate. If found guilty, the employer had to pay a fine of \$5 per offense to that informant. This not only provided an incentive for neighbors to be vigilant, it also influenced employers to be mindful of their employees.<sup>5</sup>

3. Camron to Summers, 1838, Loudoun County Clerk's Office, Deed Book 4L, 356-357; "Joseph Jackson," 1835, Indentures & Bound Out Children, Loudoun County Clerk's Office; General Assembly of Virginia, *A Collection of All Such Acts of the General Assembly of Virginia, Of a Public & Permanent Nature, As Are Now in Force Comprising the First Volume of the Revised Code* (Richmond: Samuel Pleasants, 1814), 242.

4. "Joseph Jackson," 1835, Indentures & Bound Out Children, Loudoun County Clerk's Office; General Assembly of Virginia, *A Collection of All Such Acts of the General Assembly of Virginia, Of a Public & Permanent Nature, As Are Now in Force Comprising the First Volume of the Revised Code* (Richmond: Samuel Pleasants, 1814), 445-446.

5. "Joseph Jackson," 1835, Indentures & Bound Out Children, Loudoun County Clerk's Office; "No. 1949, Joseph Jackson," *Record of Free Negroes 1844-1861*, Loudoun County Clerk's Office, 139; General Assembly of Virginia, *A Collection of All Such Acts of the General Assembly of Virginia, Of a Public & Permanent Nature, As Are Now in Force Comprising the First Volume of the Revised Code* (Richmond: Samuel Pleasants, 1814), 445-446.



Jackson struggled to pay off expenses in the 1850s. Thomas Purcell, a merchant in Leesburg who owned a store situated on the northwest corner of the intersection of Market Street and Back Street (what is now Wirt Street), filed a judgment against Jackson for failing to pay his bills incurred in March and April of 1853. The judgment filed in December, noted Jackson owed \$4.37 for a pair of pants, two pairs of drawers, and six yards of checkered gingham. The constable John L. Rinker, went to execute the judgment but noted Jackson had "no property to levy on." Finding gainful employment may have proven difficult for Jackson. According to law he did not have the opportunity to learn reading, writing, or arithmetic, like other white male apprentices may have learned. He knew the business of farming, but he did not own land and had to rely on other land owners for work.<sup>6</sup>

Jackson must have persevered as he remained in Loudoun at least through 1855. Legislation stipulated that the Commissioner of Revenue had to submit to the court a list of free people of color residing in their district. Statute required the list to include "names, sex, places of abode, and particular trades, occupation or calling." The court posted a copy of this list at the front door of the courthouse, and filed the original in the Clerk's office. George K. Fox, acting as a commissioner, listed Joseph Jackson in District one. Fox noted Jackson as a male, aged 27 years old, employed as a laborer.<sup>7</sup>

Little more is known about Joseph Jackson from court records in Loudoun. He may have moved to another county in Virginia, though legislation regulated the movement of free blacks from county to county, and threatened the label of vagrancy, placing them under the purview of the overseers of the poor if they could not prove they had gainful employment. In 1870, a few years after the Civil War, a man named Joseph Jackson appeared in a Census Record in Fauquier County with a wife and three children. If this refers to the Joseph Jackson from Loudoun, perhaps he had an opportunity to find steady work and start a family. Joseph Jackson only appears in a total of four records in Loudoun County. Though few in number, these records provide not only insight into Jackson's life, but also the experiences other free people of color may have faced. Though free in society, early nineteenth century laws restricted education and movement of free blacks, limiting their opportunities. Jackson's records show these limitations, but also provide a glimmer of hope that he found a way to live a good life despite this adversity.<sup>8</sup>

Page No. 2493

SCHEDULE 1.—Inhabitants in First Revenue District, in the County of Fauquier, State of Virginia, enumerated by me on the 3<sup>d</sup> day of October, 1870.

Post Office: Warrenton B. B. Curran Ass't Marshal.

NAME	SEX	AGE	COLOR	RELATION	OCCUPATION	VALUE OF REAL ESTATE OWNED		PLACE OF BIRTH, naming State or Territory of U. S.; or the Country, if of foreign birth.	FAMILY		EDUCATION	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, lame, or idiotic.	REMARKS
						Value of Real Estate	Value of Personal Estate		Number of foreign birth.	Number of native birth.			
Jackson Joseph	M	44	B	Head of Family	Laborer								
Ann	F	35	B	Wife	Keeping House								
Mary	F	7	B	at Home									
William	M	4	B										
Branie	M	2	B										

Joseph Jackson may have moved to Fauquier County and started a family according to the 1870 Census.

1870 U.S. Census, First Revenue District, Fauquier, Virginia, Schedule I, Dwelling 1586, Family 1580, Joseph Jackson, digital image, Ancestry.com, www.ancestrylibrary.com (accessed December 21, 2018).

6. "List of Merchants," 1848, Loudoun County Misc. Papers, Loudoun County Clerk's Office; 1850 U.S. Census, Leesburg, Loudoun, Virginia, Schedule I, Dwelling 454, Family 454, Thomas Purcell, digital image, Ancestry.com, www.ancestrylibrary.com (accessed December 21, 2018); Fouche to Purcell, 1847, Deed Book 4Y, 313, Loudoun County Clerk's Office; "Joseph Jackson (Purcell vs. Jackson)," Loudoun County Misc. Papers Free Blacks, 1853, 1853-17, Loudoun County Clerk's Office.

7. General Assembly of Virginia, *A Collection of All Such Acts of the General Assembly of Virginia, Of a Public & Permanent Nature, As Are Now in Force Comprising the First Volume of the Revised Code* (Richmond: Samuel Pleasants, 1814), 582; "List of Free Negroes 1855," Loudoun County Misc. Papers Free Blacks, 1855-01, Loudoun County Clerk's Office.

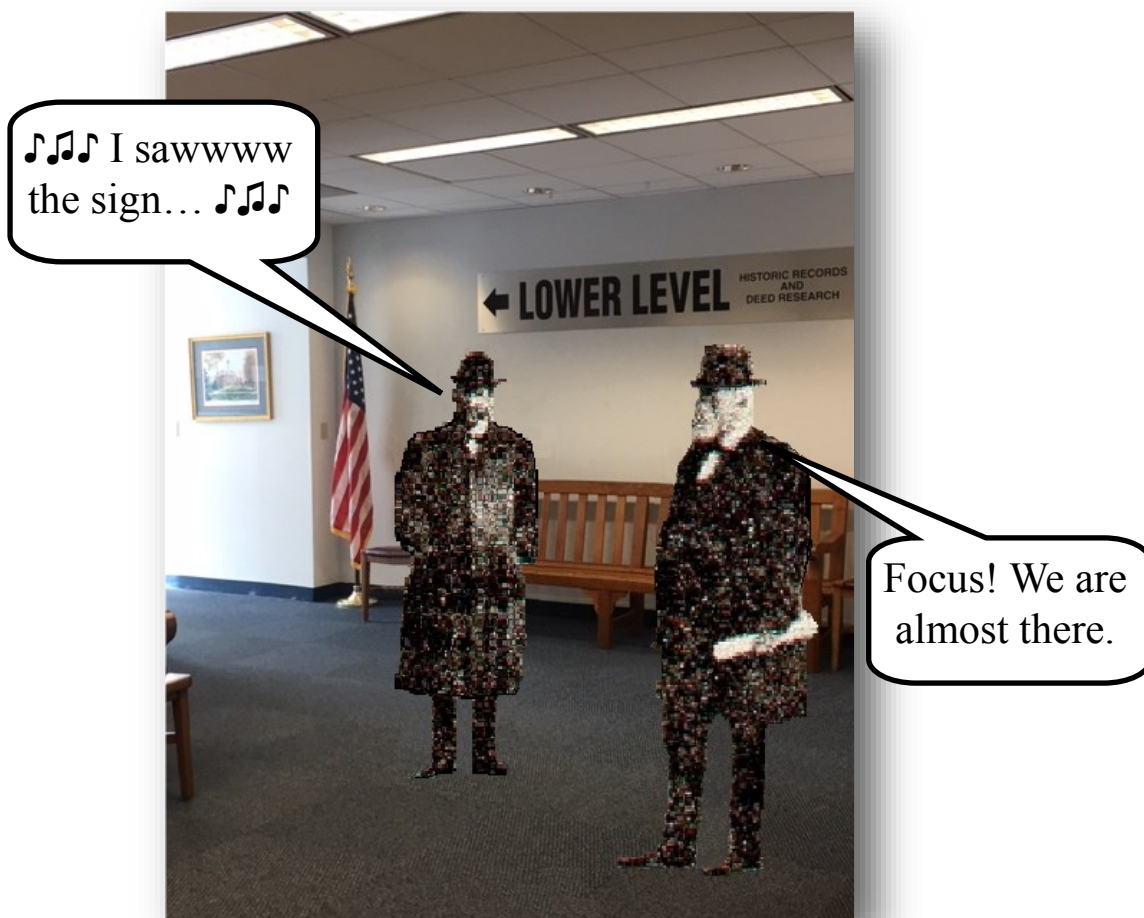
8. *A Collection of All Such Acts of the General Assembly of Virginia, Of a Public & Permanent Nature, As Are Now in Force Comprising the First Volume of the Revised Code* (Richmond: Samuel Pleasants, 1814), 258-259, 582; 1870 U.S. Census, First Revenue District, Fauquier, Virginia, Schedule I, Dwelling 1586, Family 1580, Joseph Jackson, digital image, Ancestry.com, www.ancestrylibrary.com (accessed December 21, 2018).

D	E	H	S	I	L	O	M	E	D	O	J	M	G	A	K
X	W	A	V	F	O	Y	R	A	R	B	I	L	N	P	S
E	T	U	P	S	I	D	G	J	T	E	V	S	C	P	G
S	Z	B	O	U	N	D	O	U	T	R	D	A	E	R	A
S	N	Y	Q	U	E	J	U	U	L	E	N	T	D	E	R
K	A	I	V	T	C	W	T	C	O	N	E	E	T	N	Y
C	S	N	A	S	G	A	J	C	I	E	T	R	N	T	S
A	B	T	S	T	T	H	A	G	R	A	B	G	E	I	R
B	S	F	Q	S	R	N	R	T	P	X	R	C	M	C	E
E	H	A	T	W	Q	U	S	I	H	A	J	Y	G	E	S
I	E	I	H	J	B	G	C	Q	N	D	L	K	D	K	E
T	E	R	V	S	N	N	B	T	I	O	R	Y	U	J	A
Y	T	W	E	I	A	C	N	O	S	K	C	A	J	O	R
L	S	E	K	M	C	H	A	N	C	E	R	Y	W	V	C
M	L	L	E	A	A	W	A	R	D	P	L	E	T	O	H
X	V	L	T	N	U	W	O	L	L	I	P	S	Q	Z	H

**Can you find these words in the puzzle above?**

APPRENTICE	EMANCIPATED	JACKSON	READ
AWARD	ESTATE	JUDGMENT	RESEARCH
BOUND OUT	FAIRWELL	KING STREET	SHEETS
CHANCERY	FIDUCIARY	LEESBURG INN	STATUTE
CURTAINS	GRANT	LIBRARY OF VA	TIE BACKS
DEMOLISHED	HOTEL	NACO	
DISPUTE	HOWARD	PILLOW	

It seems that the gentlemen below are on the right path now!  
Stay tuned for future editions to see their progress.



Note: To help our customers find the Historic Records Division we have installed a handy new sign on the 3rd floor.



Have you had a chance to take the courtyard walking tour?

If not, you can pick up a courtyard map at the Clerk of the Circuit Court Historic Records, Thomas Balch Library, or the Loudoun Tourism Office.

You can also find the map online [here](#).



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## 2019 PROGRAMS & EVENTS

### **First Friday March 1, 2019 - The Voices Of Enslaved People of Loudoun County's Chancery Records**

In 2018, The Clerk of the Circuit Court Historic Records Division completed indexing all slave related cases from Loudoun County's 1757-1866 chancery files. This exhibition will feature unique chancery records found in this project concerning colonization of former slaves in Liberia, emancipation and sale of slaves, and slaves suing for their freedom.

### **First Friday May 3, 2019- Sign on the Dotted Line, Famous Signatures in Loudoun County**

Come join Historic Records and other historic sites from Loudoun County to view famous signatures from three centuries of records and documents in their collections.

### **CLERK'S OFFICE TOUR OF HISTORIC RECORDS**

**Date: May 14, 2019 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

**Location: Thomas Balch Library (208 W Market St Leesburg, Virginia 20176)**

***Meet in the parking lot of Thomas Balch Library by 1:45PM.***

Eric S. Larson, Historic Records Manager for the Clerk of the Circuit Court, will lead a tour of the Clerk's Office and the Historic Court building. He will discuss the extent of Loudoun County's records holdings, where to look for records of births, deaths, marriages, and deeds, and how to use these records in research. You will need to pass through security so the group will leave the library promptly at *1:45PM*. **Please contact the Thomas Balch Library to sign up for the tour.**

### **First Friday June 7, 2019-Preservation Act V**

Historic Records most popular program is back for its fifth year! Learn from Historic Records staff and volunteers how the court records are conserved and made available to the public for research. The staff will demonstrate and discuss how records are preserved in-house and with contracted conservation companies.